

NOTED AUTHOR OF WAR POETRY DEAD IN FRANCE

Lieut. Col. McCrae Succumbed to Pneumonia, Says Cable

HE WROTE "IN FLANDERS FIELDS"

Other Works Rank High—Sketch of His Great Career

BRANDON, Man., Jan. 29.—Lieut.-Colonel McCrae, the author of "In Flanders' Fields," died yesterday in France from pneumonia, it is reported by cable from the Deputy Minister of Militia in London.

At the time of his death, Colonel McCrae was in command of the medical side of the Canadian Hospital No. 3, the McGill Unit at Boulogne, France. At the beginning of the war he entered active service with the first brigade of Canadian Artillery on the staff of Brig.-General Morrison, and during the early period of the war, up to and through the second battle of Ypres, served with his brigade in the double capacity of staff and medical officer.

Colonel McCrae was a distinguished physician of Montreal, and was lecturer in medicine in the medical faculty of McGill University.

Colonel McCrae was a son of Lieut.-Colonel David McCrae, of Guelph, Ontario, and a brother of Mr. J. F. Kilgour, of Brandon. He was 45 years of age and unmarried.

Col. John McCrae is the soldier poet who wrote the exquisite little lyric "In Flanders Fields," a poem that has probably attained a greater popularity than any other literary effort of the war. He has left a reputation as a devoted medical doctor, a soldier of merit, and a poet whose fugitive verses have given him high rank among the poets of today. His poems have appeared from time to time in various Canadian and American magazines, but as yet, no collection of them has been made. The scattered verses that he has written since the war, poems that were committed to paper in the scanty leisure moments of a medical man in active service, have breathed the spirit of the true soldier, the spirit of sacrifice and of determination to "carry on."

WAS IN SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.

When war broke out in 1914 Dr. McCrae was on the ocean, on his way to England. Immediately upon his arrival there he cabled back to Canada an offer of his services. He was willing, he said, to serve as a combatant or in his medical capacity, according to the needs of the moment. Dr. McCrae was not without military experience. He had served with an artillery unit in the South African war and had won his majority there. The Canadian militia had always been one of his chief interests and he was accustomed to say with a touch of humorous pride that he had been a soldier since the age of fourteen. He had been for a number of years an enthusiastic student of military history.

His offer to join the Canadian forces was accepted, and September 1914 saw him at Valcartier as medical officer to the brigade commanded by Col. Morison (now Brigadier-General Morison.) There was, at the moment, no opportunity for combatant service in his own special branch of Field Artillery.

With Col. Morison's brigade Major McCrae saw service in all the actions in which the Canadians were engaged in the spring of 1915. His letters to friends in Montreal at that time spoke much of the terrific intensity of concentrated artillery fire at Neuve Chapelle, a phase of warfare which had been unknown before to Canadians and in which Dr. McCrae, because of his previous association with the artillery, was particularly interested.

At the second battle of Ypres, in April, 1915, his brigade was posted on the western bank of the canal in a most exposed position, and though it suffered heavy casualties in men and guns, it did extraordinary service in repelling attacks and breaking up formations of the enemy troops massing for attack.

Major McCrae not only carried out his medical work both for his own and neighboring units at great personal risk, but, through his close friendship with Col. Morison, participated in the discussions relative to the combatant work of the unit.

When the McGill hospital unit was formed in Montreal that same spring by Col. Birkett, it was decided, through Ottawa, to offer Major McCrae a promotion to a lieutenant-colonelcy with charge of the medical service (as opposed to the surgical service) of No. 3 General Hospital, McGill.

He accepted the offer, went to England to meet the hospital unit, and returned with it to France. For thirty-one months he served continuously in Dr. Birkett's hospital in Boulogne, until pneumonia attacked him last week. He died, as he would have wished it, in the service of his country.

WAR POET DIES OF PNEUMONIA IN FRANCE



Lt.-Col. John McCrae, formerly of Montreal, whose death is reported from France. His most noted work is "In Flanders Field"; another is "The Anxious Dead." Both are given below:

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

*In Flanders fields, the poppies grow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly,
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved; and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe!
To you, from failing hands, we throw
The torch. Be yours to lift it high!*

*If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies blow
In Flanders fields.*

—John McCrae.

THE ANXIOUS DEAD

*O guns, fall silent till the dead men hear
Above their heads the legions pressing on;
(These fought their fight in time of bitter fear
And died not knowing how the day had gone.)*

*O flashing muzzles, pause and let them see
The coming dawn that streaks the sky afar;
Then let your mighty chorus witness be
To them, and Caesar, that we still make war.*

*Tell them, O guns, that we have heard their call,
That we have sworn, and will not turn aside,
That we will onward till we win or fall,
That we will keep the faith for which they died.*

*Bid them be patient, and some day, anon
They shall feel earth enwrapt in silence deep,
Shall greet, in wonderment, the quiet dawn,
And in content may turn them to their sleep.*

—John McCrae.

MANY CHILDREN

OF THE INCIL IN MPORTANT

29.—Great Britain, France, Italy represented at the session of the super-convened here today, Georges Clemenceau, the Foreign Minister, is regarded as because the plan of operations is expected to come before it before

ted by Premier Lloyd George and Mr. Wilson, sub-Chief of the British States, General Tasker H. Bliss, in army, Arthur Hugh Frazier, secretary, attends as a diplomatic officer not to participate otherwise; for Sonnino, the Foreign Minister, and Stephen Pichon, the Foreign Minister, of Staff of the Ministry of War, and

REE DEAD T OF TWO ON LONDON

en, and Sixteen Children
tes—Five Hours of Bombs
plane Brought Down

ground, 10,000 feet below. All three members of its crew were burned to death.

"Several other engagements with enemy machines were reported by our pilots, one of whom pursued a raider across the coast and fought an indecisive engagement over the sea. All our pilots returned safely.

"Reports of the casualties will be published when complete lists are received."

ATTACKS LASTED FIVE HOURS.

The attacks lasted intermittently for nearly five hours, and for two hours there was a heavy and almost continuous gunfire. The members of the Royal Geographical Society, with many ladies in the large audience, were assembled to hear a speech by Lieut.-Gen. J. C. Smuts. Sir Thomas Holditch, the president, announced that notice had just been received of an air raid and that the police informed him the audience would be safer if they went to the basement of the building. There were loud cries of "Carry on!" and the audience remained in the hall.

General Smuts spoke calmly for an hour amid reports of the guns. Afterwards Walter Hume Long, Colonial Secretary, paid a warm tribute to General Smuts and the African army, which represented all units of the British Empire.

A majority of the theatres went through with their performances with decreased audiences, but some were idle because of the failure of actors to arrive on account of the lateness of suburban trains.

MANY BRITISH MACHINES ATTACKED.

The raid was carried out by a considerable number of airplanes, which followed the familiar tactics of attacking in relays. As far as could be

ITALIANS HAVE BEGUN VIOLENT OFFENSIVE ON NORTH MOUNTAIN FRONT

Germany Reports Attack Between Asiago and Brenta Rivers — German Artillery Shows Great Activity in Monchy-le-Preux Sector, British Announce—Fighting in Macedonia

By Canadian Press.

ROME, Jan. 29.—Italian troops made a heavy attack yesterday on the northern mountain front and broke into the enemy lines, the War Office reports.

Reinforcements which the enemy was hurrying down the Nogaro and Campomuolo valleys were dispersed by the artillery of the Italians and their allies.

Twelve enemy airplanes were brought down. The Italians held mastery of the air everywhere.

The Italians took more than 1,500 prisoners. They stormed enemy positions on the heights east of the Asiago basin and broke through at several points resisting violent counter-offensives.

By Canadian Press.

BERLIN, Monday, Jan. 28 (British Admiralty, per Wireless Press).—The Italians launched a violent attack yesterday on the northern mountain front, between Asiago and the Brenta river, says the official statement issued this evening.

By Canadian Press.

BERLIN, Jan. 29, via London.—Italian forces which attacked the Teuton positions in the Col del Rosso region and between Frenzela ravine and the Brenta river, on the northern Italian front, were thrown back by the Austrian troops, the German official statement announced today.

The Italians gained a foothold on Monte di Val Bella, the statement adds, but the ground later was wrested from them in a counter-attack.

The Italians made repeated attempts, bringing up reserves, to widen local breaches in the opposing lines. The statement says these broke down with heavy losses, and that 300 prisoners were taken.

GERMAN GUNS VERY ACTIVE

By Canadian Press.

LONDON, Jan. 29.—Notable activity by the German artillery is reported in the vicinity of Monchy-le-Preux, on the Arras front. The statement reads:

"A hostile raiding party was driven off during the night in the neighborhood of Arleux-en-Gohelle. The hostile artillery showed great activity in the Monchy-le-Preux sector. One of our patrols northeast of Ypres has not returned."

"Hostile artillery was active during the day in the neighborhood of Havrincourt and north-east of Ypres," says the official statement from the British headquarters in France and Belgium, issued last night. "There is nothing further of special interest."

MORE FIGHTING IN MACEDONIA

By Canadian Press.

PARIS, Monday, Jan. 28 (delayed).—The official statement on operations in Macedonia issued tonight by the War Office, reads:

"Army of the East—January 27.—There were patrol encounters west of

Lake Doiran. Serbian troops carried out a successful surprise attack against Bulgarian positions at Dobropolje.

"Allied aviators bombarded enemy establishments in the valley of the Vardar and in the region of Seres."

WAR SITUATION SUMMARISED

Italy has furnished a military surprise by launching an attack of ap-

cial report of last night, which was not received until to-day, announces the opening of the assault in this region, describing it as a violent attack. There were no accompanying details.

In the lack of more definite news, the probability suggests itself that the Italian effort is one somewhat similar to that of the French a few weeks ago, east of the Brenta, which resulted in a penetration of the Austro-German line for a considerable distance and the subsequent withdrawal of the enemy from a rather extended area, improving the Entente position notably.

Thus the Italians may now be endeavoring to effect a rectification of their line with a view to making more difficult any future attempt of the enemy to advance.

TING TRUCE TERMS

ing the peace negotiations. German troops on the Russian front are being allowed to go home on furlough. These soldiers are then transferred to recruiting stations and sent to the



L.T.-COL. JOHN McCRAE.

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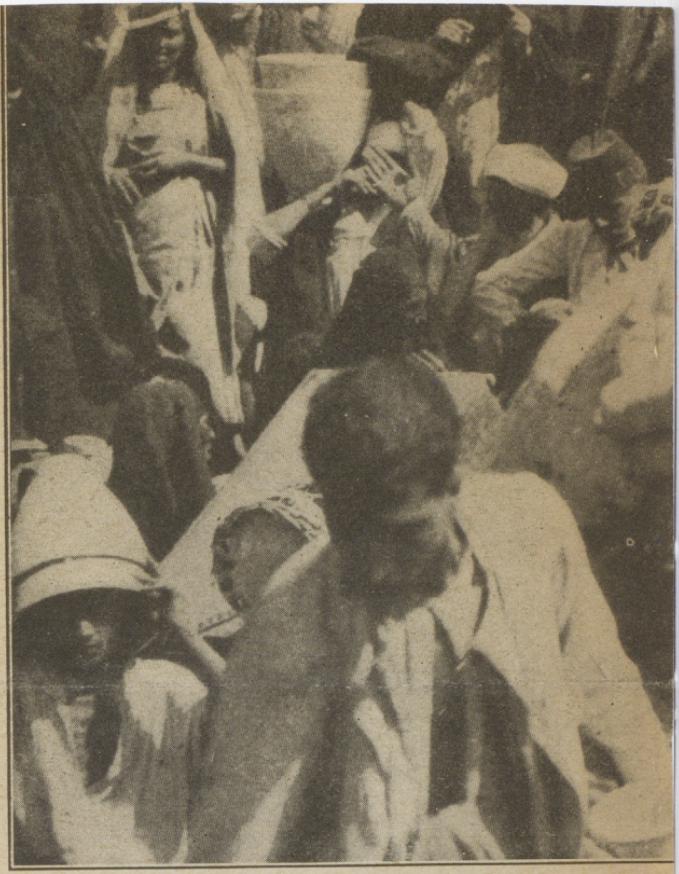
IN MEMORY OF LT.-COL. JOHN McCRAE

*Across the fields of Flanders
The snowflakes weave a pall;
And moaning o'er the wasted land
The winds arise and fall;
But he, who sang in Flanders' fields,
Has passed beyond their call.*

*The spring will come to Flanders,
And poppies bloom again—
As when he marked them sentinel
Upon the cross-strewn plain;
And they will breathe of love and life
Triumphant over pain.*

*And when we dream of Flanders,—
Torn land of grief and fears,—
We shall recall his memory
Through all the coming years;
When silence broods o'er Flanders' fields,
And peace enshrines our tears.*

—S. M. Bainbridge.



THE BRITISH OCCUPATION OF BAGHDAD.—A rec
rejoin relatives at Bairah, from whom they had lon
the British army of occupation.





McGill University

Service

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE

Lieut.-Col. John McCrae, B.A., M.D.
No. 3 CANADIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL (MCGILL)

TO BE HELD IN

The Royal Victoria College

Monday, 4th February,
1918, at 11 a.m.

Order of Service

1. Hymn.—“O God Our Help.”

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy Throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

Amen.

2. Scripture Reading. Isaiah, Chap. XL., “Comfort ye my people.”

3. * Prayer.

4. Address.

5. **Scripture Reading.**—Ecclesiasticus, Chap. XLIV. “Let us now praise famous men.”

6. **Hymn.**—“When the Day of Toil is Done.”

When the day of toil is done,
When the race of life is run,
Father, grant Thy wearied one,
Rest for evermore.

When the darkness melts away
At the breaking of Thy day,
Bid us hail the cheering ray,
Light for evermore.

When the heart, by sorrow tried
Feels at length its throbs subside,
Bring us where all tears are dried—
Joy for evermore.

When for vanished days we yearn,
Days that never can return,
Teach us in Thy love to learn
Love for evermore.

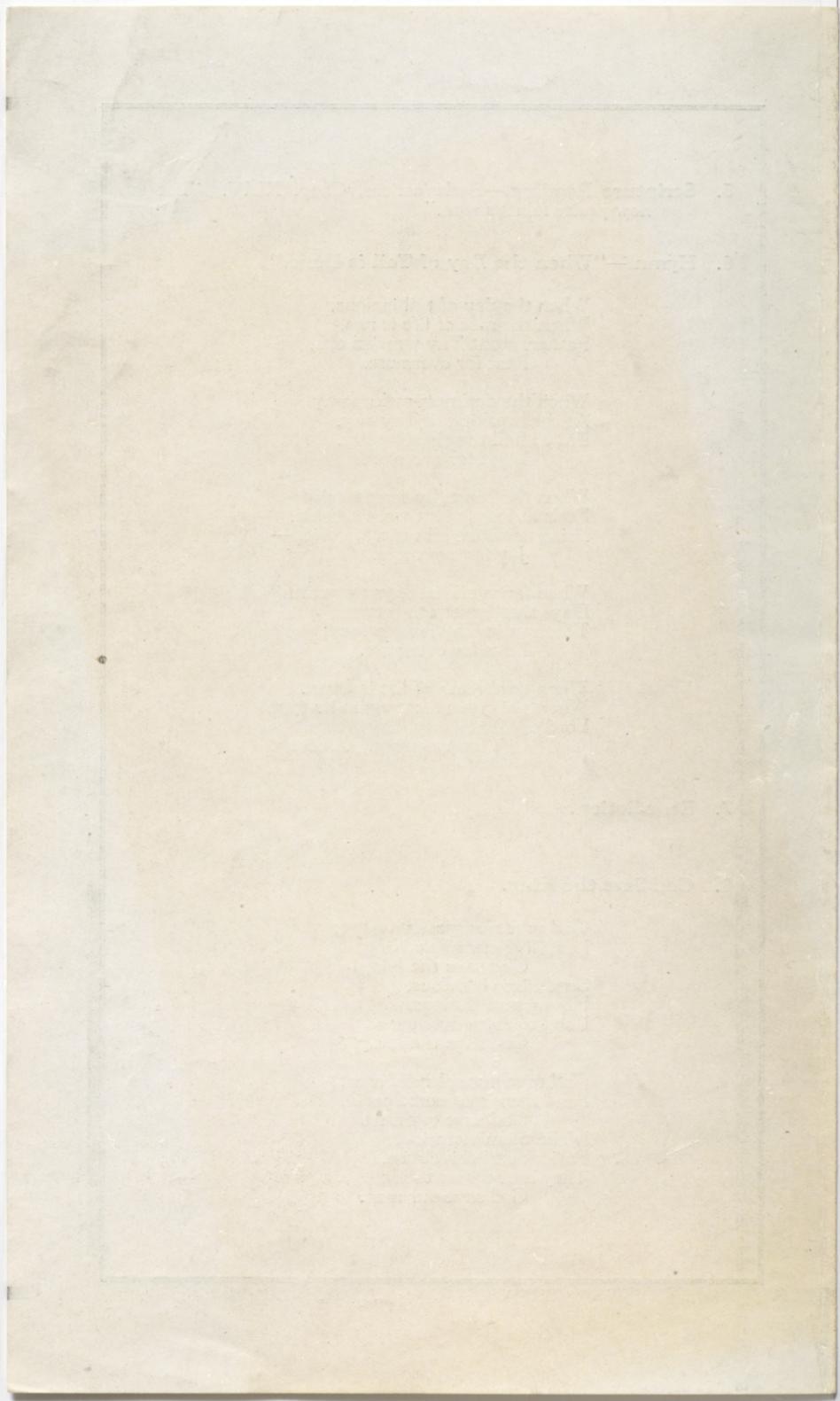
When the breath of life is flown,
When the grave must claim its own,
Lord of life, be ours Thy crown,
Life for evermore. Amen.

7. **Benediction.**

8. **God Save the King.**

God save our gracious King;
Long live our noble King;
God save the King!
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us;
God save the King!

God save our splendid men,
Send them safe home again,
God save our men.
Make them victorious,
Patient and chivalrous,
They are so dear to us;
God save our men.





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